

# All grown



# Up!

**Ian Lamming** reviews the new grown up Hyundai i20 Premium

## Fact File

Hyundai i20

Premium

Engine: 1.4 litre  
petrol

Power: 99BHP

0-62mph: 11.6 secs

Top speed: 114mph

Combined miles per  
gallon: 51.4

Transmission: six-  
speed manual

CO2 g/km: 127

I'm bigger than my dad, just as he was taller than his and my son is already heading towards my heady 5ft 7in and he's just six.

Don't know whether it's the food we eat or just plain evolution sparked, no doubt, by the fact we have to stretch up higher to reach the top shelf in the supermarket nowadays.

It's the same with cars. Have you noticed how as new models appear they are larger and more sophisticated than the ones they replace?

Take a look at Hyundai's i20. Aw look, bless it, it's all grown up. Where did the years go? I'd better start planning my retirement and paying for my funeral.

Old i20 was a smart enough, capable enough, appealing enough super-mini but the new one seems to have matured like a good wine.

Larger proportions seem to push it into the class above and equipment levels would confirm its promotion.

Interior proportions are consonant with the prevailing increase in girth and are to be welcomed to accommodate more comfortably our bulkier frames and myriad electronic gubbins that accompany us through life.

But what is most striking about new i20 are the levels of refinement now available to buyers on a modest budget.

Simply speaking i20 feels much more expensive than its £14K price tag would suggest. Driver and passengers are wonderfully insulated from the rigors of engine, road and wind noise leaving the cabin quiet and serene.

What this achieves is a car that is pretty much tireless on long journeys. The ride is smooth, the steering accurate and the willing engine pokey and economical. Slick clutch, throttle and six-speed gearbox add to the easy laid-back feel of i20, an ambience normally associated with larger, dearer models.

The equipment list is also staggering – 16in alloys, parking sensors, decent hi-fi, trip computer, automatic headlights, rain sensing wipers, climate control, electrically adjustable and heated folding door mirrors, LED running lights, projector headlamps with cornering function, smart phone docking station, Bluetooth with voice recognition, cruise control, steering wheel controls, lane departure warning system, hill start control, stability control – the list is exhaustive and exhausting.

The new i20 has grown up in all ways to meet the aspirations of an ever-demanding buying public. As its evolution continues unabated it is hard to imagine how Hyundai could possibly improve i20 any further – but I bet you they do.